

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 02350 150555Z

20

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /052 W

----- 100561

O 150537Z NOV 76

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6772

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJ: CONSTRUCTION IN TIEN AN MEN AS OF 1200 HOURS LOCAL NOV 15

1. INTENSE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY BEGAN IN TIEN AN MEN SQUARE AREA NIGHT OF NOVEMBER 14 AND IS CONTINUING WITH SEVERAL THOUSAND WORKERS, INCLUDING PLA, CURRING DOWN TREES IN PARK SOUTH OF MARTYRS' MONUMENT, TEARING UP SIDEWALKS IN SAME AREA AND DIGGING DEEP TRENCH ACROSS SQUARE BETWEEN GREAT HALL OF THE PEOPLE AND MUSEUM OF NATIONAL HISTORY. LARGE PORTION OF SQUARE BETWEEN THE GREAT HAL AND MUSEUM IS NOW SURROUNDED ON NORTH, EAST AND WEST WITH EIGHT FOOT HIGH BOARD FENCE. NORTHERN EDGE OF SQUARE, INCLUDING FLAG POLE, IS NOT FENCED IN AND AT NOON THE COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY PERATION ON NORTH EDGE OF SQUARE WAS STILL FUNCTIONING. TWENTY FOOT DEEP EAST-WEST TRENCH NOW STRETCHES OVER HALFWAY ACROSS THE SQUARE. LARGE NUMBERS OF HEAVY DUMP TRUCKS AND POWER SHOVELS ARE BEING USED ON TRENCH.

2. COMMENT: WE ASSUME THAT WORK IS UNDER WAY ON MAO MEMORIAL HALL. AN AUTHORITATIVE EXPLANATION SHOULD BE AVAILABLE SHORTLY.

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GATES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, MONUMENTS, CHIEF OF STATE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PEKING02350
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760425-0425
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761148/aaaabpag.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <16 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSTRUCTION IN TIEN AN MEN AS OF 1200 HOURS LOCAL NOV 15
TAGS: PINT, CH, (MAO TSE-TUNG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006